

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 ISO-00 IO-03 SAM-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14

OMB-01 DRC-01 /063 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO AMCONSUL LUANDA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5817

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1274

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, TP, PO, GB

SUBJ: POLITICAL LEADERS IN SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

REF: LISBON 4320; LUANDA 870 (NOTAL)

1. EMBOFF ATTEMPTED CONTACT DR. DA GRACA, USUALLY MOST ACCESSIBLE OF LOCAL MLSTP LEADERS TO RESPOND LUANDA REFTEL. DA GRACA NOT AVAILABLE BUT EMBOFF WAS ABLE TO SPEAK WITH DR. GUADALUPE DE CEITA ALSO EMPLOYED AT LIBREVILLE MELEN CLINIC AND SELF-STYLED "MINSISTER OF FINANCE" FOR MLSTP.

2. EMBOFF BEGAN NOTING LONG U.S. COMMITMENT TO CAUSE OF AFRICAN SELF-DETERMINATION AND FACT OFFICER FROM LUANDA CONGEN WOULD SOON BE MAKING VISIT TO SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE. IN RESPONSE TO DIRECT QUESTION WHO SHOULD BE CONTACTED, DE CEITA SAID THOUGH HE DEEPLY APPRECIATED U.S. INITIATIVE HE WOULD PREFER EMBOFF CONSULT WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MOVEMENT AS THIS WAS IMPORTANT FIRST CONTACT BETWEEN USG AND MLSTP.

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3. AT SUGGESTION OF DE CEITA, EMBOFF NEXT CALLED ON DR. LEONEL DE ALVA WHO SUBSEQUENTLY DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF MLSTP AND NUMBER TWO MOVEMENT LEADER UNDER PINTO DA COSTA. DE ALVA WAS DELIGHTED TO SPEAK WITH U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AND PROVIDED NAME OF MISS ALDA DA GRACA ESPIRITO SANTO (NO RELATION TO LIBREVILLE DA GRACA) WHO, HE SAID, COULD BE CONTACTED THROUGH THE "PRO MLSTP CIVIC ASSOCIATION" TO WHICH LUANDA EMBOFF COULD BE DIRECTED BY ALMOST ANY SAO TOMIAN. IN ENSUING CONVERSATION, DE ALVA MADE FOLLOWING POINTS REGARDING CURRENT AND FUTURE STATUS OF SO TOME AND PRINCIPE.

A) SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 3 LIBREVILLE TALKS BETWEEN GOP DELEGATION AND MLSTP (LISBON REFTEL) HAD BEEN MOST SUCCESSFUL. GOP HAD RECOGNIZED THE PRINCIPLES OF DE-COLONIZING THE ISLANDS AND MLSTP AS SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF ISLANDS' POPULATION. TIMETABLE FOR INDEPENDENCE WILL BE WORKED OUT AT A LATER DATE AND AT A HIGHER LEVEL.

B) MLSTP IS IN FACT SOLE SPOKESMAN FOR SAO TOME; EARLIER "TENDENCY" EXPRESSED BY FLP HAS NOW FOUND A PLACE WITHIN MLSTP.

4. DE ALVA OCCUPIES OFFICE IN MINISTRY OF PLAN AND CONVERSATION WAS INTERRUPTED AT THIS POINT. BOTH DE CEITA AND DE ALVA WERE MOST CORDIAL AND FORTHCOMING AND EMBASSY INTENDS MAINTAIN AND BROADEN CONTACTS WITH THEM AND OTHER MEMBERS OF MLSTP. WE ARE OF COURSE KEEN TO HAVE ANY REACTIONS CONGEN LUANDA CAN PROVIDE REGARDING MLSTP STRENGTH AND LEADERSHIP ON THE ISLANDS. FROM HERE AT LEAST IT APPEARS THAT BOTH GOG AND GOP CONSIDER MLSTP SOLE REPRESENTATIVE FOR ISLANDS PEOPLE.
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